

Received of A. A. Phelps, for the Mass. A. S. Society,
eleven dollars, to defray travelling expenses to the Quarterly
meeting of said Society at Worcester. John G. Whittier

Ms. A. 9. 2. 9. 84

J. G. Whittier

11-

paid 30 octo 1837

Newburyport. Nov. 9. 1837

1857.
H. 14 yr. Oct. 1857

Dear Mrs. Chapman

Observing your advertisement in the newspapers, touching the Fair & the Liberty Bell - it occurs to me that you may intend using this year certain verses of mine that were last year too late. I do not know that I should now think them worthy of it; that however I will now leave to you; & my object in writing is to ask that if they are printed my present place of residence (as above) may be appended, & identify them the more; & further that the printers may leave my capital letters as they are in the MS. - which printers are always loth to do.

I wish to say also that I have taken the responsibility of proposing to my friend Samuel Johnson of Salem (with

Whom you may be acquainted (hearsay)
to contribute something to the Liberty
Bell - He being one deeply interested
in the cause, & one from whom no word
other than truth would ever come.
I do not yet know whether he intends
doing so - but thought I would mention
it to you in anticipation of doing so. it.

I shall hope to make a visit to
Boston at the time of the Anti-Slavery
Fair. My own interest in the movement
has long been too deeply rooted & he ~~is~~
capable of anything but steady increase.
I may say the same as to the particular
ground now occupied by your portion of
the Anti-Slavery body. Still, my own
tendency is to liberalism as regards others'
actions & individualism as regards my own.
While I seek to pay honor where honor
is due, I have yet to find a body of
Reformers which satisfies me. For
the present at least I am compelled to
stand alone, striving to follow the Right

not only strenuously & fearlessly - but
also gladly & willingly - to welcome
all fellow laborers (even where measures
or spirit sometimes repel) - but to
go out by any one appointed way
for none; - seeing only in this cause
any chance for true coöperation.

But I am aware that all this
language must be interpreted by the
life of the speaker alone - & I must
try humbly & patiently to show what
I mean by it. I should not have said
thus much had I not felt sure that
no one is uninterested to you who is
any degree awakened to the great cause
to which you have devoted your life.

I remain yours with the
sincerest respect

J. W. Higginson.

J. W. Higginson

1887

Ms. A.9.2.9.84